



IDAHO MONTANA NET (IMN)
3578.5/7043 KHz Daily - 0300
SEPTEMBER 2009

IMN Web: <http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/imn/imn.html>
Manager - Open Recorder: VE7DWG Yrs. Trooly: W7GHT
IMN for August: Sessions 31, QNI , QTC

By Golly - Can you believe it. I forgot to publish the IMN Preamble and Rules in the July NL. To those of you who missed it, here it is:

IMN PREAMBLE AND RULES

(reprinted every six month)

IMN PREAMBLE: CQ IMN CQ IMN IDAHO MONTANA NET IS PART OF NTS AND MEETS DAILY ON 3647 KHZ AT 0300Z ALL WELCOME QNN ----- QNZ QNI QTC? QNA QNB RN7 . . . QNB MTN . . . QNB FARM . . . STNS WITH TRAFFIC? QNA -- (Call Roll). Send IMN DE ----- 3 or 4 times during roll call. IMN QNI QTC? DE -----. LAST CALL IMN QNI? DE -----. IMN NOW QRU QNF DE ----- GE.

IMN GUIDES: When sent off frequency to receive traffic, the receiving station ALWAYS picks the frequency and calls the station who is to send. (This makes sense. It's the receiving station who finds a clear channel).

Allow NCS 3 minutes to appear. The alternate should call the designated NCS from time to time during that 3-minute period, however. Stated another way, if NCS is 3 minutes late, someone takes over.

IMN RULES: NOTE TO NCS. Avoid 5 up. That's BCEN Frequency.

- SPEED LIMIT ON NET FREQ. IS 15 WPM. NCS should tell those who exceed the speed limit to slow down.
- TO be placed on, or to stay on the roll call, you must QNI at least twice during the month.
- TO qualify for Net Certificate you must remain on the roll call at least 6 consecutive months.
- TO qualify for NCS or Liaison Sticker (for your Net Certificate) you must perform that function 6 consecutive months.

SPECIAL NOTE: If you are absent from the roll call two consecutive months, you will be dropped from the IMN NL mailing list.

NCS AND LIASON

DAY	NCS	RN7	MTN	FARM
SUN	W7GHT	W7GHT	W7EKB	W7GHT
MON	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT
TUE	VE7DWG	VE7DWG	W7EKB	W7EKB
WED	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB	W7EKB
THU	W7VPK	VE7DWG	W7VPK	W7VPK
FRI	W7GHT	W7GHT	KA7YYR	W7GHT
SAT	KA7U	KA7U	KA7YYR	KA7U

TUESDAY RETURNS TO 80 METERS

Dave, NCS Tuesdays, is returning the Tuesday Net to 3578.5, effective Tuesday Sept. 1 (Local). That's the first Tuesday in September. No more wondering if you will be heard on 40.

PACTOR

We just got an offer. It came from George, K7BDU, Pacific Area Digital Coordinator. He also runs a Packet Board and asks who, among the IMNers, has packet. He says he can route some traffic through to our Net. He also can send those with Packet a copy of his scan QRG's if they will send him an e-mail. His e-mail is <k7bdu@localaccess.com>.

To those who respond to Ralph, will you please notify me so that I can advise the rest of the gang of what is going on.

LIGHTENING

We all, as Ratio Amateurs, should continue always to respect lightening. This was first demonstrated to me while a resident of Craigmont, Idaho. One night a bolt of lightening hit a grain elevator about 100 yards from our home. The next morning, while eating breakfast, we heard a bang and rattle on the roof. I went out and found my 80 meter vertical had broke and fallen. The lightening bolt, even 100 yards away, was enough to break the 80 meter coil, which was pat of the



antenna.

Thursday, August 6 a very intense storm visit parts of Boise. It was a storm akin to those in the mid-west. Lightening occurred between clouds and then went to the ground. It seemed that some of the bolts were hitting close, since there was no time lapse between flash and sound.

The next morning I was assured that my estimate was correct. The neighbor's yard has but one tree and it was split three ways and laying on the ground. I took this picture from my own garage opening. Scary. We're not supposed to have weather like that in these parts.

When I first heard thunder, I ran into the ham shack to assure myself the antenna was disconnected. It was. The close lightening bolt did my shack no damage (nor the antennas).

KENWOOD TS-440

Yes - - I got mine back in good shape. It now works fine and is on the shelf, above the operating table, as a spare. I'm whole again.

Bob, K7YB, in response to last month's article about my rigs, and said he had owned a Kenwood 440 which suddenly started jumping frequency and FM-ing. He, in turn called Burqhrdt in South Dakota and talked to a tech who promptly told him the problem was glue on one of the boards and a chip. The repair was about \$100, with a turn around about 3 weeks.

About the same repair cost and repair as mine. What's more, the little rig, fully packed only weigh about 20 lbs, so shipping is minimal. They're good little gadgets to have around.

I bought my TS440 to replace my Heathkit 102, which I set on the back seat while mobile. Somehow, my wife didn't care to have me turning around to tune the rig driving the speed limit - - so we bought something small enough to fit in front.

CAN FREQUENCY CHANGE NEW PAN ALTERNATE FREQUENCIES

To avoid QRM, especially from the digital stations, Central Area Net (CAN) recently changed its 40 meter frequency to 7108 KHZ. Please modify your list of NTS frequencies to conform.

Rob, K6YR, PAN Manager, in an e-mail dated August 29, advised that if QRM is too much on the net, NCS can move PAN to 3,596 or to 7108 KHz. This move probably will occur during CW contests, which occur during the weekends.

PACIFIC AREA CYCLE TWO REACTIVATED

Rob, K6YR on August 29, informed the Pacific Area Staff that efforts are underway to reactivate Cycle 2 of the Pacific Area Net (DPAN). Activation efforts are being led by Tom, KF7GC, who also is STM for Arizona.

Cycle 2 currently is activated, but monthly reports show activity is quite limited. With full activation of DPAN, things should show an increase in traffic. Lets hope.

Best wishes to om, KF7GC and the Daytime Net(s).

ARRL SET OCT 3-4

IMN participation in the Annual Simulated Emergency test (SET) has always been minimal or none. It

will probably continue with the same activity, unless an actual emergency occur which involves us. (Lets us always hope not).

We, nevertheless should realize the annual event is an effort to cause amateurs to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies. This includes storing emergency equipment and supplies in a convenient place. I will admit that for a long while, I did have emergency equipment ready for use, but now-a-days, the spot seems to be over-run with storage and other junk.

If I promise to amend my ways, will you do the same. BE ready, just in case an actual emergency does occur.

WWW.RUFZXP.NET

What the heck is that? Well it's an address that's supposed to improve your CW contesting skills. It will send 50 call signs, one at a time. If you copy a call correctly, the program increases the sending speed by 1 or 2 WPM. If you make an error the speed is lowered by 1 or 2 WPM,

People routinely post their scores on the RUFZ Web, and this has become a competition itself.

RUFZ has proven popular and effective at improving CW skills that it now is significant part of the High-Speed Telegraphy (HST) competitions around the world. For more info go to the address above.

NEWSBRIEFS:

During August, some of the ARRL Section Managers had to run for re-election. Three incumbents were defeated. However, both Western and Eastern Washington Sections had no competition. Accordingly, Mark Thorp, KB7HDX, Eastern Washington and Jim Pace, K7CEX, Western Washington, both will continue in their respective positions.

A good place to send beginners to learn the code is <http://lcwo.net/> This also is a good place to increase your own code abilities. A nice spot to browse.

Ron, KA7U, is still traveling. He and YF Donna will be in Eastern Idaho, Yellowstone, Montana and finally Rapid City, SD, visiting relatives and sight seeing. Think he will be back and NCS about Nov. 1

CONVENTIONS:

Oct 3 - 8 AM - 4 PM. Sacajawea Middle School, Bozeman, MT.

Oct 9-11, Pacific Northwest Conference, Seaside, OR,

Sept 26. Washington State Convention, University High School, Spokane, WA, 8 Am - 5 PM.

BIRTHDAYS:

AA7TX	9-1-34
K7MOS	9-11-31
WB7VSN	9-18-27
K7YB	9-18-50
KA7U	9-22-48
WA7EES	9-23-49
VE7CZW	9-26-49
N7MFB	9-29-48



Note the twins.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to each of you. May you have many moe.

SILENT SUN

The August 21 ARRL Electronic Letter quoted Tad Cook, K7RA, who submits the "Solar Update" column each week, as follows: "The quiet Sun continues to baffle us. If there are no sunspots today - - and I don't expect any to emerge - - this will be the 42nd day in a row with no sunspots;"

This is very unusual. We should now, by all expectation, be into our second year of the new Sun Spot Cycle. But here we are, still waiting for the next cycle to begin.

To say the least, our conditions have presented us with weak signals and poor propagation. Some days, conditions are worse than others. But compared to what they should be, they are absolutely terrible.

Wonder if someone has a magic wand they could wave???

HMP BIRTHDAY EVENT

Sept 2-9 will be the 140th birthday celebration of Hiram Percy Maximum, cofounder of and first President of ARRL. It's sort of a contest. Look at page 20, September QST for details and qualifications for entries.

This is a good one to work.. Enjoy it, too.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF NTS

Next month's QST, (October, 2009) will mark the 60th Anniversary of ARRL National Traffic System.

One article, reviewing the formation, written by Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Public Service Serialist, will defiantly relate to the actual beginning of the System. Therein two persons you know or have heard a lot about, will be mentioned and quoted. Believe it or not, one of those persons is Yrs Trooly. The other is one of my long-time TCC skeds, Bill Thompson, W2MTA. I first met Bill, by the way, when we both were Chairman of our respective Area Staffs, back in the 1980s.

I do hope you enjoy the article.

AUGUST QNI: VE7ADM 2, K7BDU 10, K7BFL 3 N7CM 4, VE7CZW 24, WW6D 20, VE7DWG 14, W7EKB 8, KD7FAU 12, W7GB 18, W7GHT 31, AI7H 9, K6HRT 9, K7JAL 2, W7J G 6, K9JM 27, K7JV 9, AL7KG 2, W7LG 2, VE7O M 9, W6PAP 17, K7PX 6, NB7Q 2, VA7QQ 18, K7TM 13, W4TVI 17, KA7U 3, W7VEO 6, W7VPK 17, W7WAT 8, WA7WBY 4, K6YB 9, K7YD 4, KA7YYR 14, VE6ZE 5, W6OUU 1, K5CM 1 N7RR 1 K7VX 1. TOTAL 381.

AUGUST TRAFFIC: VE7DWG 8, W7EKB 18, W7GHT 42. TOTAL 64.